



Legislative Bulletin.....February 11, 2014

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S. 25 - South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act

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Order of Business: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on February 11, 2014, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary:

Sequestration: The legislation extends for one year (FY2024) the sequestration cuts on mandatory spending put in place through FY2021 by the Budget Control Act (and recently extended by two years through FY2023 by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, RSC analysis [here](#)). Because most mandatory spending is exempted, the bulk of the savings from this provision comes from cuts to Medicare provider payments, where cuts are capped at 2 percent.

Military COLA: The Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) contained language that placed a cap on the cost of living adjustment (COLA) for working-age military retirees under the age of 62. The cap was set to 1 percent below inflation and this change is set to take effect on December 1, 2015. This change applies to many current, and future, military retirees. According to CBO, this change would reduce direct spending by \$6.235 billion over the 2014-2023 period¹. More background information has been compiled by CRS².

This legislation amends the language in the BBA so that it only applies individual that became a member of a uniformed service on or after January 1, 2014.

Sustainable Growth Rate: Establishes the Transitional Fund for Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) Reform which provides the Secretary funds to pay for physicians services under Medicare Part B to supplement the conversion factor for 2017 if it is less than the conversion factor for 2013. \$2.3 billion would have been set aside to be used during or after 2017.

Committee Action: S. 25 was originally introduced on January 22, 2013. However, the original text has been stripped and replaced with the three sections highlighted above.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

¹<http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/Bipartisan%20Budget%20Act%20of%202013.pdf>

²<http://www.crs.gov/pdfloader/R43393>

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score is unavailable.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: A report from CBO detailing new mandates is unavailable.

Does the Bill Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: No.

Constitutional Authority: A statement of constitutional authority is unavailable.

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